

Region 10 Pre-SFIREG Meeting Report

May 9, 2019 Teleconference--3:00 pm--4:00 pm

Prepared by: Kelle Davis (WA)—Region 10 SFIREG Representative

Present were:

- Oregon-- Rose Kachadoorian, Colton Bond
- Alaska-- Bob Blankenburg
- Idaho-- Vic Mason, Kevin Kostka, Sherman Takatori
- Washington-- Gary Bahr, George Tuttle, Joel Kangiser, Tim Schultz, Robin Schoen-Nessa, Kelle Davis, Eddie Simons
- Tribes-- Joe Herrera (Yakama)
- EPA – Chad Schulze, Derrick Terada, Linda Liu, Bethany Plewe, Nicholas Hurwit, Dirk Helder, Katie McClintock

State Briefing and Hot Topics

Alaska—

- Nearing final adoption of a regulation change they made to provide for general permit authority to apply pesticides to water. The focus is to make it more streamlined to do invasive species response. The previous permit requirement had a lot of time intensive delay steps that made it a challenge. Expecting adoption this month. It is a package that has been fairly popular with the regulated public.

Oregon--

- Today Oregon published a permanent rule prohibiting most uses of aminocyclopyrachlor. It allows for an exemption for those doing spot treatments for noxious weed control, but otherwise any application to all kinds of rights-of-way, natural areas, restoration areas, inner & outer area of banks of ditches and canals, anywhere where roots of non-target trees or shrubs may extend, any aerial application, and any habitat for sage grouse is prohibited in Oregon. There is also a provision in the rule of what to do with plant material contaminated with aminocyclopyrachlor and what this material cannot be used for--like horse bedding or mulch.

Idaho--

- Hot Topic is about the new paraquat labels related to training, and the restrictions of the use of the product to only certified applicators (no longer can handlers use product). **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

- Right now the only paraquat training available is online through E-extension (free, 15 question quiz) certification is required every 3 years, not on an annual (or bi-annual) basis, and won't coincide with Idaho pesticide applicator licensing requirements of 2 years. The online training is not difficult. Many other states have seen the "certified applicator only" restrictions on dicamba labels, but this will be the first time Idaho applicators will have seen these type of restrictions.

- **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP) ?

Washington--

- ## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)
- Air Blast Sprayer Pilot project – WSDA’s Technical Services and Education Program (TSEP) has been doing a lot of outreach to private applicators in Eastern WA. TSEP has come up with some techniques to help reduce drift. They have created a system where burlap is installed over the intake of the air blast sprayer. This reduces the volume of air the sprayer is drawing in, therefore reducing the volume of air it is pushing out. The intent is to get the spray into the canopy and not above where it can cause problems. TSEP has also developed a more simplified way of calculating application rates. This will help reduce the number of test passes that applicators will have to perform in order to test their rates. TSEP has demonstrated these techniques through technical assistance visits at three farms and although it is still a pilot project and still needs full evaluation, it appears to be having some success. Challenges with this complicated project include the differences in the sizes of the farms, the types of orchard set-up (standard vs trellising), the different spray application equipment, and the resistance to change practices without supporting data.

Tribes--

Joe Herrera (Yakama Tribe)—Has been working with WSDA Waste Pesticide Program to collect old, unwanted pesticides on the reservation. Have already disposed of several drums of pesticides already.

Discussion on Full SFIREG Draft Agenda Topics/Other Issues

Action Thresholds on Cannabis:

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- ## Deliberative Process / Ex. 5
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Pesticide Use on Industrial Hemp:

- Plans to categorize Cannabis as a food commodity which will assist SLAs to enforce laws including to embargo hemp, including seeds, vegetative matter or processed commodities that are treated with inappropriate pesticides.
- Is CBD a considered food item, how will pesticides be labelled on these products?
- Most states that have a hemp program have expanded their program in relation to the 2018 Farm Bill.
- Region supports the idea to categorize Industrial Hemp as a food commodity. It would make it easier to detain or embargo.

- Also to consider is **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Pass-through Insecticides

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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Survey on Regulated Devices

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Cover Crop Issues and Plant-Back Restrictions

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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The Future of POINTS

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Special Local Needs (24c) & EPA's Re-evaluation Approach to Reviewing SLN's

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C&T Rule/PREP Debrief

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

APPCO Technology Workgroup and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

- The workgroup consists of members from states across the US. Have not had the first meeting yet, but will be held in the next couple of weeks. The UAV issue was selected to work on first due to all the levels this technology touches--labels, drift, C&T, WPS, etc. The workgroup will be prioritizing issues and what to tackle first, making policy recommendations, creating a mission statement, etc.

EPA's Draft Guidance for Plant Growth Regulator Label Claims, Including Biostimulants

- Eddie Simons is the chairman of AAPFCO's Biostimulant Task Force, and is also the lead representative for AAPFCO on USDA's Biostimulant Workgroup.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

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- The due date is May 28th, we will be providing comments and sharing them with other states, we have heard they may extend the due date to June 28th or even July 28th.

Upcoming PIRT on Drift Issues

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

- Speakers are coming in from Canada and across the US.

Soil Fumigation Water Seal Issues

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Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Delay in SLITS Responses

- An Oregon SLITS request went unanswered for 2 years. SLITS was not functioning for a while and the states were not notified that it wasn't working. SLITS was something that the SLAs pushed EPA to create. EPA is supposedly working on it—States would like an update on this issue.